
Public Notice

Applicant:

Miller Boat Lines, Inc.

Date:Published: February 25,
2002**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers****In Reply Refer To:**

Expires: March 26, 2002

Buffalo District CELRB-CO-R RE: 92-479-18(3) Section: OH 10 and 404

Application for Permit under Authority of
Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and
Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

Miller Boat Lines, Inc. P.O. Box 239, Put-In- Bay, Ohio 43456, has requested a Department of the Army Permit to construct a pier extension to the Miller Boat Lines Ferry Dock in Lake Erie, located on the north end of Catawba Island at the north end of Crogan Street, in Port Clinton, Ottawa County, Ohio.

The project consists of the following:

- a. The proposed sheet pile pier extension will be 100 feet long and 15 feet wide, with a top elevation of 574.8 feet International Great Lakes Datum (IGLD), 1985. The pier extension will be filled with gravel and capped with an 8-inch thick concrete slab.
- b. A two-foot thick by a minimum of 5-foot wide layer of ODOT 601 "C" stone will be placed along the entire toe of the new structure to provide fish habitat.
- c. Approximately 1,020 cubic yards of gravel and 70 cubic yards of ODOT 601 "C" stone will be placed below the ordinary high water (O.H.W.) elevation of 573.4 feet IGLD, 1985. Approximately 2,800 square feet of lake bottom will be covered by the pier and toe stone.

The stated purpose of the project is to provide adequate protection to the ferry boats during storms from the north and northeast. This extension will allow the ferry boats to operate during these storms and provide better ferry service to the islands.

Location and details of the above described work are shown on the attached maps and drawings.

Questions pertaining to the work described in this notice should be directed to Elizabeth W. Stone, who can be contacted by calling (716) 879-4363, or by e-mail at: Elizabeth.W.Stone@usace.army.mil

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity complies with Ohio's approved Coastal Zone Management Program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program. Any comments on the consistency of the proposed activity with Ohio's Coastal Zone Management Program should be forwarded to:

Ms. Kim Baker

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
1952 Belcher Drive
Building C-2, Fountain Square
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1386
Telephone (614) 265-6411
FAX (614) 267-2981
e-mail: kim.baker@dnr.state.oh.us

The following authorization(s) may be required for this project:

Water Quality Certification (or waiver thereof) from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

There are no registered historic properties or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that will be affected by this project.

In addition, available evidence indicates that the work proposed may affect one species proposed or designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as threatened or endangered (the Lake Erie water snake: *Nerodia sipedon insularum*), and it may affect the critical habitat of any such species.

This notice is promulgated in accordance with Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, parts 320-330. Any interested party desiring to comment on the work described herein may do so by submitting their comments, in writing, so that they are received no later than 4:30 pm on the expiration date of this notice.

Comments should be sent to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207-3199, and should be marked to the attention of Elizabeth W. Stone, or by e-mail at: Elizabeth.W.Stone@usace.army.mil. A lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the work as proposed.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be fully considered during the public interest review for this permit application. All written comments will be made a part of the administrative record which is available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act. The Administrative Record, or portions thereof may also be posted on a Corps of Engineers internet web site. Due to resource limitations, this office will normally not acknowledge the receipt of comments or respond to individual letters of comment.

Any individual may request a public hearing by submitting their written request, stating the specific reasons for holding a hearing, in the same manner and time period as other comments.

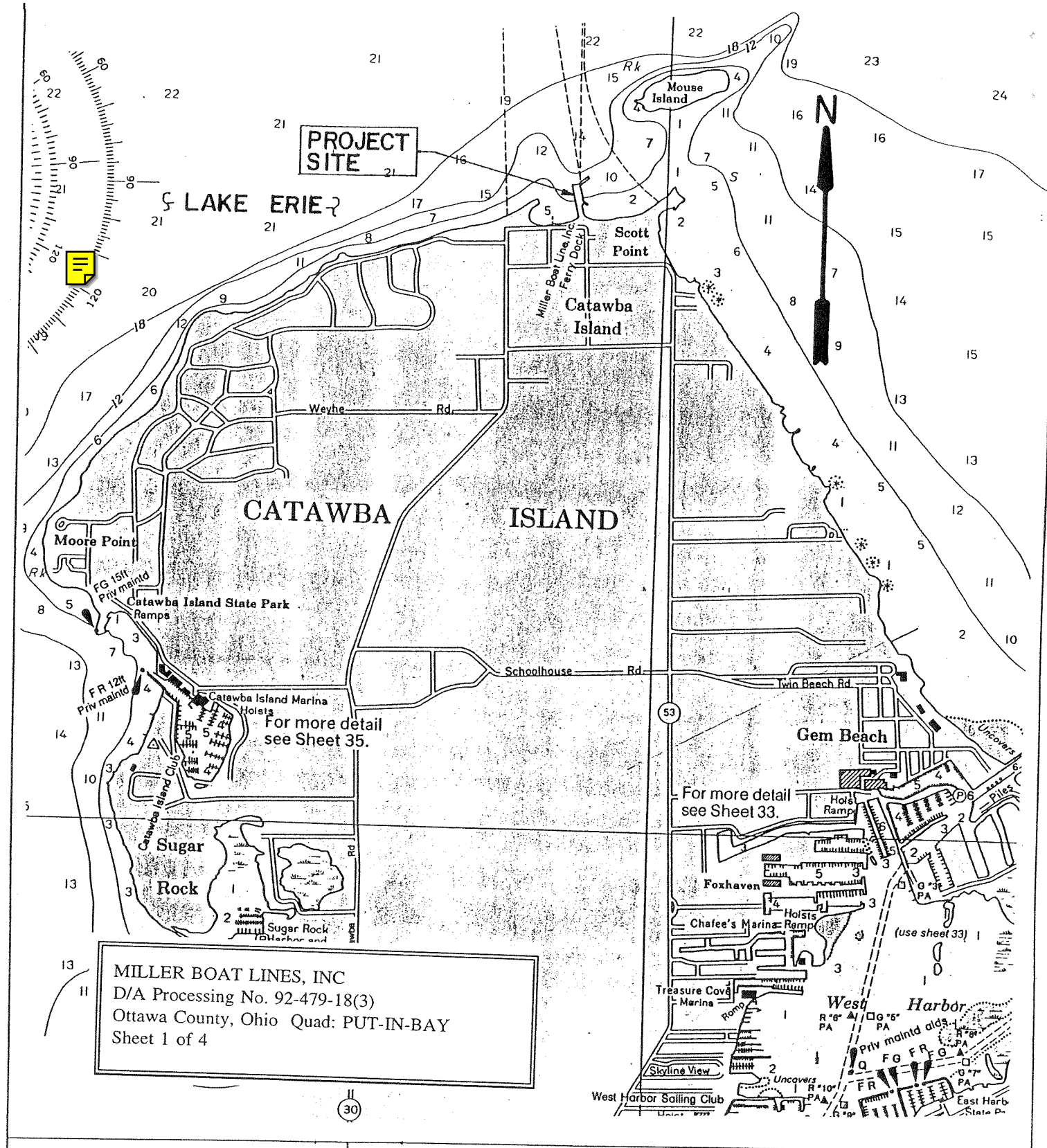
Public hearings for the purposes of the Corps permit program will be held when the District Commander determines he can obtain additional information, not available in written comments, that will aid him in the decision making process for this application. A Corps hearing is not a source of information for the general public, nor a forum for the resolution of issues or conflicting points of view (witnesses are not sworn and cross examination is prohibited). Hearings will not be held to obtain information on issues unrelated to the work requiring a permit, such as property ownership, neighbor disputes, or the behavior or actions of the public or applicant on upland property not regulated by the Department of the Army. Information obtained from a public hearing is given no greater weight than that obtained from written comments. Therefore, you should not fail to make timely written comments because a hearing might be held.

The decision to approve or deny this permit request will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Paul G. Leuchner
Chief, Regulatory Branch

NOTICE TO POSTMASTER: It is requested that this notice be posted continuously and conspicuously for 30 days from the date of issuance.



DATUM: 0.0 L.W.D. = 569.2 FT. I.G.L.D.

VICINITY MAP

PREPARED BY:

MATRIX ENGINEERING, INC.

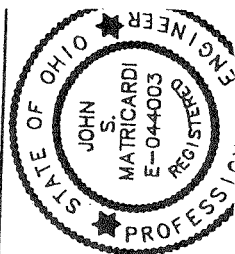
- 1.) ROBERT & BARBARA BIHUN
2.) CATAWBA POINT ASSOCIATION

MILLER BOATS LINES INC.
P.O. BOX 239
PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO 43456

PIER EXTENSION TO
MILLER BOAT LINES FERRY DOCK,
CATAWBA ISLAND TOWNSHIP, OHIO

SHEET

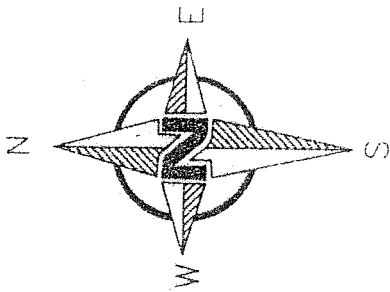
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CATAWBA ISLAND TOWNSHIP, OHIO

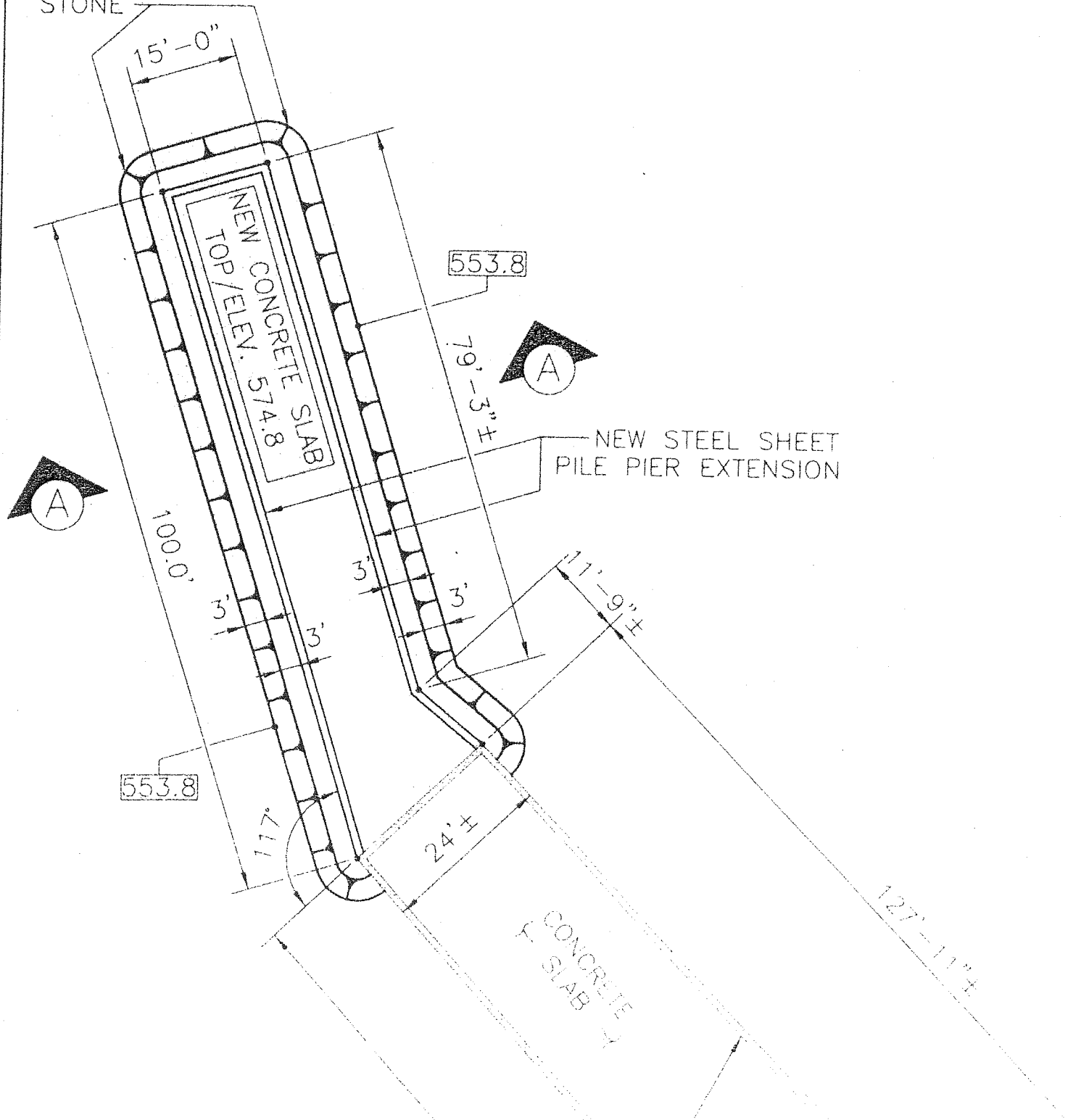
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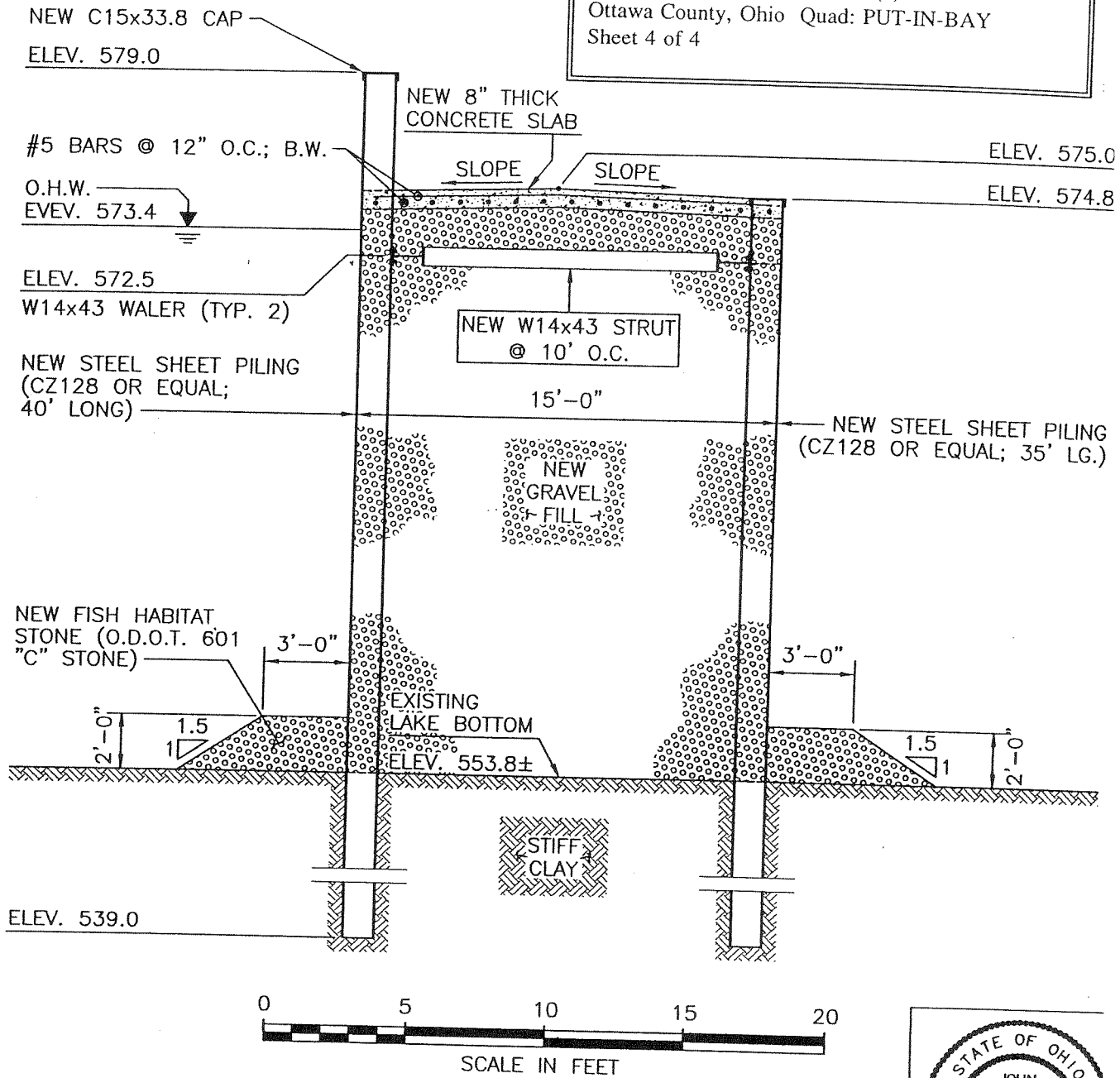


MILLER BOAT LINES, INC
D/A Processing No. 92-479-18(3)
Ottawa County, Ohio Quad: PUT-IN-BAY
Sheet 3 of 4

NEW FISH HABITAT;
O.D.O.T. 601 "C"
STONE

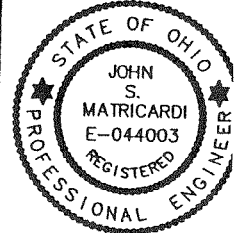


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Sheet 4 of 4



SECTION A-A

SCALE: 1/4" = 1'



DATUM: 0.0 L.W.D. = 569.2 FT. I.G.L.D.

SECTION A-A

PREPARED BY:

MATRIX ENGINEERING, INC.

- ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS
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